



## Fall Leadership Conference

The purpose of this conference is to help the local Missouri SkillsUSA members to develop or improve their leadership skills. You will be expected to be the leader of some activities and to be the follower at other activities. You should put your full effort into all the activities whether you are part of the planning committee or part of the working committee. You must remember that you are the reason and purpose for this conference.

Because of the management styles of this conference, you, as a participant, receive back from the activities what you put into them. The advisors and other SkillsUSA members are here to help you make the most of your capabilities. How well they succeed with this assistance is directly related to your attitude and level of motivation.

Chapter activities are considered an essential and integral part of the students' development. SkillsUSA believes that every student should enter the labor market with a salable job attitude, qualities of character and citizenship and trade ethics, as well as a general understanding of the system of free enterprise in which they will spend their entire working life. SkillsUSA mission is based upon the premise that the craftsperson and technician must have more than just technical skills.

SkillsUSA uses three methods to help students with personal development. These are leadership development, career achievement recognition and competition.

Leadership development...The SkillsUSA program includes leadership development in such vital areas as public speaking, parliamentary procedure, group dynamics and cooperation with others. SkillsUSA believes students should provide leadership in activities which affect their work, their community, their school and their nation.

Career Achievement Recognition...Through the Professional Development Program (PDP), the student has the opportunity for recognition. As SkillsUSA members progress in their occupational and leadership training, they should do so under the guidance of advisory committees consisting of labor and management leaders in the community. As students achieve, they receive awards or symbols of achievement recognizing their growth.

Competition...SkillsUSA members compete in occupational and leadership contests at local, state and national meets. SkillsUSA brings young people together to learn from each other as individuals.

An essential component of career education is the link that must exist between the training program and industry. In many industries throughout the United States, commitments are being made to request graduates that have been involved in SkillsUSA leadership and professional development programs.

SkillsUSA is an educational tool to be used in the classroom and laboratory by the instructor. It is a tool which, if used properly, will motivate students, improve their enthusiasm for learning and give them a better understanding of the inner-workings of industry, labor and management. SkillsUSA activities' serve as a window for career education and improves the self-image of the student who participates by giving him/her a wholesome and distinctive identity. We live in a complex industrial society with ever-increasing pressure, and an instructor should be concerned with the total development of the student. SkillsUSA offers an essential dimension to trade, industrial, health and technical programs. As has been said many times, there is a gap between technology and people. Our ever-increasing technological knowledge tends to make many of our students feel as though they are no more than "hardware." Where there are active SkillsUSA programs, we show success in countering this feeling and the resulting lack of motivation.

Chapter Quality Standards provide blueprints for programs of work. The standards are to help chapters set goals and strengthen their local chapters. Selecting quality activities to meet these requirements is the responsibility of the members. By accomplishing such standards, SkillsUSA will earn the reputation of quality programming.

At the completion of this conference you will be an official Missouri Leadership Conference ambassador. Your responsibilities will be to promote, report and support the activities you have been involved in over the past week. A good ambassador will report to school and community leaders about the importance of leadership training and the Leadership Conference experience.